



Santa's sail gets soaked

High winds cause problems during annual stunt



Meteors lose to Falcons

Team preparing for two games next weekend



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The Fort Erie Times

www.forterietimes.com

Saturday, December 31, 2011

Providing holiday support



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Just in time for the holidays, a large donation was made by A-1 Quality Roofing, Rich Products and the Canadian Recruitment Centre through the Ridgeway-Crystal Beach Kinsmen Club. Food and toys were provided to 51 local families through this donation and the food was sold at cost by Jesse and Kelly's No Frills.

Looking at the past year

Mayor reflects on 2011, looks into the future

Kris Dubé
The Times

It was a busy year in Fort Erie and mayor Doug Martin reflects on it as one with many accomplishments, heading into 2012.

The biggest news maker for Martin was the contentious Bay Beach Issue, a partnership between the municipality and the Molinaro Group, a Hamilton and Burlington based developer.

Earlier this month, council approved site plans to move ahead with the 12-storey building on the south side of Erie Road, near the waterfront in Crystal Beach.

Martin said it is "finally resolved" and is glad his council will be able to focus its attention on other matters in Greater Fort Erie.

"It dominated the debate and discussion every week," said Martin while meeting with the Times this week.

See Page 2

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Business for Baskets



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Dan and Betty Pataklalvi, along with Marg McMinn, were the winners of The Ridgeway Business Improvement Association (BIA)'s Spirit of Christmas gift baskets, made possible by businesses in downtown Ridgeway. Presenting them with their prizes at Chadwick's Antique's are Vivianne Cooney and Bernadette Dallingwater. The baskets were valued at \$1,029 and \$624. The winning ballots were bought at Headshapes and Lasting Impressions. Retailers in the area held the contest from Dec 1 to 15.

Downloading a donation



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Staff at Computer Services Niagara (CSN) raised a large collection of food items to donate to Community Outreach Program Erie (COPE) before Christmas. For every customer purchase, the local business set aside one dollar to be used for its donation. No Frills also provided the food at cost. Seen here are Jenn Prisniak, Ed Smith, Mandy Crosby from COPE and Brodie Paterson.

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*We look forward
to seeing you in the
New year!*

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January 3rd

The Lion and the Eagle set to debut

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

Travel back to 1811 on the eve of Christmas and participate in the holiday celebrations at Moody's Tavern in The Lion and the Eagle.

Brian Coworth, writer and director of the Lion and the Eagle, hopes everyone enjoys the production which has been lovingly prepared to begin the celebrations of the 1812 bicentennial.

The play is about the fear of the impending War of 1812, says Coworth, adding the story is based loosely on real people, real places and real events.

When he began writing, Coworth says the original story started with four characters and over time, the story expanded into a cast of more than 20 characters. He says the story has grown into something much bigger than it started.

And the director says the play will be ready when it makes its debut.

"When you're working on something like this, you

always think, well if we only had another week or two, or another week of rehearsals. But, we're as ready as we can be."

Set designer Stewart Simpson has been working with Coworth and Vince Marinascio, executive director, to develop a set design that is as authentic as possible and working inside Old Fort Erie's Welcome Centre where the production will take place. Simpson says it hasn't been an easy task.

He describes the location at the welcome centre as an "arena theatre" where people will be seated right in the action.

"The welcome centre is an unusual space and adapting it so it works for the purpose of the play has been difficult. One of the issues is to set up a focus for the audience so they pay attention to the play and they aren't distracted."

During the construction of the set, volunteers also worked to incorporate parts of the building into the design of the set, says Simpson.

"It's really been a mixture

of all of the old and new wrapped up. We're using some of the walls of the welcome centre and we're incorporating other things into it as well. For example, there are these beams in the building and we're going to make them look wooden like something you would've seen in a real tavern back then."

Many hours of research went into the production of the play to make it as authentic as possible, including the set design, says Simpson.

The set is cheery and inviting and during the production, there will be dimmed lighting to simulate the actual feel of a real tavern from 1811.

"When we were originally thinking about the interior of the tavern, we thought of a log cabin. But, as it turns out, the taverns were much different than we thought. They were actually finished much better than I thought they were."

And a lot of thought and research went into the characters in the play, says actor John Dickhout, who is play-



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

The actors starring in The Lion and the Eagle, a story about people who travel to a tavern to celebrate the Christmas season with the War of 1812 approaching, are rehearsing in costumes to be ready for the play's debut on Jan. 7 to start the 1812 bicentennial celebrations.

ing a character loosely based on one of his descendants.

The actor says he didn't initially jump at the chance to perform in the produc-

tion, but once he read the script, Dickhout says he became more excited about it.

"I think it's really cool to be a part of something like this. Many people don't know a lot about our history."

Dickhout says he is excited for people to come and watch The Lion and the Eagle because there are many layers to the play—everything from the design of the set, to the songs that will be sung, to the story itself—which will leave audiences feeling a

connection with the characters.

The Lion and the Eagle premieres Jan. 7 at 8 p.m. at the Old Fort Erie Welcome Centre. Other performances are scheduled for Jan. 14, 21, and 28 at 8 p.m. and Sundays Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 6 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at Benjamin Moore Paints on Garrison Road for \$15 and \$10 for students. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$18 and \$13 for students.



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Important Notice - Tree Trimming

In order to better serve our customers, Canadian Niagara Power Inc. ("CNPI") has contracted Pineridge Tree Service to perform tree trimming in the following areas starting in January of 2012:

Fort Erie Tree Trimming Area

Crystal Beach, Ridgeway, Stevensville areas

South of "Netherby Rd" to Lake Erie.

East of "Burger Rd" to "Winger Rd".

East of "Mathews Rd" to "Burleigh Rd"

CNPI's tree trimming program is intended to help protect the public, protect property and maintain electric reliability. CNPI implements accepted professional standards for the pruning of trees near power lines.

If you have any questions, please contact our offices.

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by ASHA HESTER, MSc
Hearst by CASLIO Audiologists

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Announcement

Ken Hagan will continue full time practice of law under the law firm name of Hagan Law Firm starting January 1st following the retirement of Roderick McDowell from Hagan & McDowell Law Firm.

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Fire Department at the scene of a fire on the corner of Parkside Avenue and Scott Street in Crescent Park on Wednesday. A cat perished in the incident.

Busy holiday season for FEFD

The Fort Erie Fire Department (FEFD) has been kept busy so far this holiday season.

On Christmas Eve, firefighters were called to an address on Bertie Street just before midnight, for a structure fire. It was caused by an electrical problem and damage is

being estimated at around \$75,000.

On Wednesday, a two-alarm fire called out the FEFD to an address in Crescent Park, at the corner of Parkside Avenue and Scott Street.

Unfortunately, two cats perished in the fire...but one dog was able to survive.

Fire chief Larry Coplen said damage is in the range of \$125,000 between the home's contents and the structure itself.

Cause is still undetermined, but no foul play is expected to have taken place.

"It's not being deemed suspicious at all," said Coplen.



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

An electrical fire at a home on Bertie Street on Christmas Eve, caused about \$75,000 in damage. The family was home but nobody was injured.

Fire department wants you to recycle

If you have old appliances sitting around the house that aren't being used, the Fort Erie Fire Department wants to take them off your hands.

On Jan. 7, the FEFD will be holding an E-Waste Day, where unused televisions, DVD players, computers, old cell phones and other electronics will be recycled through the Ontario Electronic Stewardship.

It is a fundraiser for all six associations in the FEFD. Half of them will be accepting items to be recycled through the Ontario Electronic Stewardship. It is a fundraiser for all six associations in the FEFD. Half of them will be accepting items to be recycled through the Ontario Electronic Stewardship.

delivery on Jan. 7.

"If you're a senior citizen or are someone that doesn't drive, you can give us a call," said public safety officer Doug Atkins.

To arrange for a pick up or

for more information, you can call Atkins at (905) 871-1600 ext. 2603.

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Public Notice

Public Meeting for the
Fort Erie Elementary Accommodation Review
will be held at:

GENERAL VANIER PUBLIC SCHOOL
105 Torrance Street, Fort Erie, Ontario

Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Schools involved in the review area are:
Fort Erie Public, Garrison Road, General Vanier, Rose Seaton

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We look forward to meeting you!

New Year's Day Worship Service
at 10:00 a.m.

Pastor Jay Stewart

We will be having kids of all ages join us
this Sunday and invite you
to come to be a part of this service.
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opinion page

The

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our editorial

Make a small but important resolution

Tomorrow not only brings another day, but it also brings an entire new year.

With celebrations set to take place this evening, there is no doubt there are at least a few people still scrambling to think of a resolution to make a fresh start for 2012.

Whether it's a weight loss, choosing to eat healthier foods, or spending time learning a new skill or hobby, there are many resolutions to choose from.

But, how many people actually follow through with the resolutions they make every year?

Sure, promising yourself you will get out to the gym more often is easy.

But, after the clock strikes midnight and maybe a month or two has gone by, that New Year's resolution is just another ghost among other resolutions long since passed.

Instead of choosing the same resolutions you never keep anyway, why not start with something small?

Why not make a resolution to

spend more time with your family? Or, make a resolution to have coffee with your friends more often?

Sometimes we often get lost in the daily hustle and bustle of life and we forget what's really important.

It doesn't matter how big our waist lines are, or how much money we have in our pockets.

What is important is the time spent with family and friends, and that's what New Year's Eve is about.

So, tonight when you're celebrating, raise a toast to your loved ones and ring in the New Year with the resolution to just be the best person that you can be.

And remember, have a safe and happy New Year.

-Sarah Ferguson



Do You Remember?

Thanks to an anonymous reader and Coralie Graham, last week's photo has been identified as the preparation of a nativity scene at St. Michael's Church during December of 1981.

The children are, from left to right: Tricia Dumelle, Tonya Dumelle, Cory Hilmayer, and Sherri Hilmayer. They pose

beside nativity figures hand-painted by Virginia Halbach.

A "Put Christ back into Christmas" group led by Father Patrick Norton prepared the display as part of town-wide festivities celebrating the Christmas season.

Calling all Masons for this week's photo. We have one name on the back,

Floyd Hughes and the date Dec. 1, 1976.

Can anyone identify the other gentlemen or tell us any more about the circumstances of this photo?

Please call the Museum at (905) 894-5322 or e-mail at museum@forterie.on.ca if you have any information about this photo and the story behind it.

Editor says 2011 was a year that should be forgotten locally



Kris Dube
Editor's Notebook

If I could summarize my thoughts on 2011 in Fort Erie, I'd say it was a year that made me eagerly wait for the next one.

This weekend, you can throw your old calendar in the trash and get ready to turn a

new page.

Fort Erie is a great place and I definitely don't want to paint a poor picture of my hometown, but I do feel this past year is one that everyone needs to put behind them.

Six of the seven council members had their campaign expenses from the October 2010 election challenged and many of the claims thrown at them were from local residents with personal differences. Some of the alleged mistakes made by

councillors can be considered serious and may end up with some sort of penalty... that's for sure.

But there are sure signs some of the applications were made just because some people felt like a good old fashioned, small-town battle.

The Bay Beach Issue also played a huge role in this divide, but one of my New Year's resolutions is to write on that topic as little as possible... unless it takes a new twist and I'm obligated to because readers will be interested.

But my goodness, I certainly hope it's not in the limelight as much as it was in 2011.

Let's hope this year we can talk about progress, rather than getting caught up on what people are saying about you on blogs and devoting your life to bickering about specific people and issues on the Internet.

In my opinion, the most important topic we have to look forward to is the Canadian Motor Speedway (CMS).

This project could set a new precedent for Fort Erie and how it is perceived by other people from different parts of the region, province, the United States and all over the world.

When is the last time a major development actually went through in Fort Erie?

Not a government funded building like a new police station or fire hall... but something that will create jobs and spark other related businesses to be founded just because of its presence in the town.

I think the CMS falls into this category.

There are many projects and stories I'm sure will be covered in the coming year, but when it comes to this town growing and becoming an attractive place to live and work... I think the speedway will play a positive role.

Some will disagree, but that's how these things work. If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207 or send me an email to editorial@forterietimes.com.

opinion page

COPE's success made possible with local support

Dear Editor,

We are just ending another successful year at COPE. Success can be measured in many ways.

At Community Outreach Program Erie (COPE), it is measured by how many people we were able to help, and by how much of a difference we were able to make for those same people.

The important thing to remember is that the success is only possible because of the many people who continue to support all of the work that is done through COPE. Primarily a food bank providing emergency food to several hundred people each month, there are many other services that

are available. There is the distribution of gently used clothing, small household items, books, toys, linens, etc. Hundreds of people use this service each month, and everything is provided at no charge. These are items that our concerned community members continue to donate. A wide variety of applications and brochures are available at our office.

COPE will be celebrating its 29th anniversary in January. We thank everyone who has supported us over the years to make this event possible. And we look forward to serving the community for as long as our services are needed. People were so generous to COPE during this holiday season, and we are thank-

ful. This will allow us to help our clients during the upcoming months. Winter months bring the added expenses of higher heating costs, in addition to winter clothing that must be purchased.

Remember please that COPE provides services to everyone throughout the entire Greater Fort Erie area. We are located at 32 Dufferin Street in Fort Erie, and our phone number is 905-871-2526.

As always, we thank you for caring. Our faithful donors are what allow us to continue our services.

We take this opportunity to wish everyone the best in 2012.

Barbara Volzke
COPE

Donation train



Ridgeway Public School teacher Debbie Longval, left, and students Isabella Armstrong, Chase Tustin, Cole Tustin and Norah Burns with some of the 1,000 food items collected by the local school before the holidays that were donated to the St. Vincent De Paul.

The TIMES Asks



Ryan Melanson



Shannon Williams



Mike Gambacort



Chas Siddall

"I don't have one and I've never really thought of one."

"My resolution is to finish school and to complete all of my courses on time."

"I think my resolution will be to find substantial employment in 2012."

"I have no idea what my resolution will be."

What do you think?

E-mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

Daycare donates



Before Christmas, the Fort Erie Co-op Daycare donated a large collection of toys to the Fort Erie Kinsmen's Gift of Love campaign.

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2012
Happy New Year!



John Fulton, also known as Surfing Santa, middle, with U.S. border patrol officers John Connolly, Paul Hinderfiter, Dan Marth and Chris Krahl after they picked him up in the Niagara River last Friday. No charges were laid against him.

Surfing Santa gets a ride from U.S. border patrol

Kris Dubé
The Times

It wasn't smooth sailing for Surfing Santa last Friday. John Fulton has been hitting the icy waters of Lake Erie and the Niagara River since 1985 under the moniker of Surfing Santa, raising awareness for homelessness and garnering media attention from around the world mostly every year.

He's been doing it since 1985. This time around, heavy winds caused some problems for Fulton as the mast of his sail snapped into pieces.

“I’ve never had a mast snap in half like that.”

— John Fulton
(Surfing Santa)

es when he was about halfway into the U.S. on the Niagara River.

“I went against my better judgment and kept the big sail on,” he said.

“I’ve never had a mast snap in half like that.”

After having to abandon his rig, he started to swim back to shore...but didn't get very far before officials from U.S. border patrol cruised out to where all the action had taken place and offered him a ride back to safety and dry land.

They loaded him up and took him to the American side of the border and no charges were laid. He posed for a handful of photos with patrol officers, without his beard and hat because along with the incident, they perished in the sail.

“I didn't realize they were going until I was on the boat,” he said with a laugh.

He estimates the equipment lost in the mid-river episode is valued at \$2,500 and he considered trying to rescue as much as he could...but he was more concerned with living to see Christmas. “It was more important for me to get back to safety,” said Fulton.

Fulton performs this annual stunt to raise awareness about homelessness and on Christmas Day delivers food and warm clothing to less fortunate individuals in Niagara.

“That's what I try to do, to get people to think a few days before Christmas,” said Fulton.

Matt Densmore, patrol agent in charge with the U.S. border guards, said there were no major issues with Fulton's escapade, but doesn't recommend anyone to attempt being a copy cat.

“It's not the type of thing I'd encourage anyone to do,” he said.

For more information about his cause, visit www.surfsantasanta.com

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Ask a Mental Health Therapist

Q: Is it true that suicide rates increase at Christmas?

A: There is a common misconception that depression and suicide rates increase at Christmas and research suggests that it is into the New Year that people are more susceptible to depressed feelings that could lead to self harm and suicide.

At Christmas there are more supports available than any other time of the year. Friends and relatives are more likely to visit and become a bigger part of one's life. Charitable groups and Churches offer special events that help to alleviate isolation and promote caring and warmth.

It is important that we all feel supported. Let people know you care about them all year round. Stay in touch with someone long past December 31 especially if they tend to isolate themselves. Let the spirit of the holiday season carry on through out the year through kindness and caring.



Anne Smithson,
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Happy New Year!

New Years Resolutions for PC Users by Ed Smith

I will not hit the keyboard or bang the mouse in frustration - *even when it isn't working!*

I will refrain from clicking on email links that seem suspicious - *even though it might be harmless!*

I will not give out my credit card or personal information to just any website - *even if it's a good deal!*



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A: Every seller wants their home to sell fast and bring top dollar. To accomplish this, the first thing you should do is to clutter the house. People accumulate tons of stuff throughout time. Pack most of those kick-waags and clean off clutter counter tops. Rearrange bedroom closets and kitchen cabinets to be neat and tidy. Think of the message you will send in potential buyers if they open it and things fall out. You want these potential buyers to feel that the house is very cozy. Rearrange furniture to have lots of open to more around. If you want to take certain light coverings with you, remove them now and replace them. Similarly, if you want to take a certain light fixture with you, take it down. If a buyer doesn't see it, they won't want it. Also, make those minor repairs you've been meaning to do. Make sure all doors open and close properly. Patch any holes in the walls. Repairs are never out of sight better. Make the house sparkle and give your home some curb appeal by attaching to the outside too. Give me a call, I'd be happy to help you.

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St. Joseph's student designs winning poster

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

When Tatum McLean, a Grade 6 student at St. Joseph's, heard about the Lions International Peace Poster contest sponsored by the Black Creek Stevensville Lions Club, the young artist got to work right away.

McLean spent every day after school in her room carefully drawing a beautiful poster with pencil crayons for three days.

The theme for the 24th annual contest was Children Know Peace.

The picture she submitted to the Black Creek Lions featured a rainbow and hands making gestures of peace.

For her efforts, the young artist was awarded first place locally by Black Creek Lions Club.

Her poster was submitted to the district level by club president Debbie Robinson where McLean's picture went on to win third place out of more than 375,000 entries submitted worldwide, says Carol Peisch, a Lions Club member.

"There were 40 posters submitted to us from St. Joseph's students in Grades, 5, 6 and 7. It was a difficult



Tatum McLean

choice, but Tatum's was the first choice for the Black Creek Lions."

McLean says the poster was a school assignment that she put a lot of thought and effort into.

"When I thought about making the poster, I thought about drawing something showing peace around the world."

The young artist says she drew both black and white hands to represent the many different ethnicities in the world coming together and celebrating peace.

When McLean found out she won, she says she was thrilled because she worked hard on the poster.

Make a splash at third annual Polar Bear Dip

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

Start the new year off with an exciting challenge and take part in the Polar Bear Dip hosted by the Crystal Beach BIA.

Organizer Phil Smith says he expects to see more than 200 people gathered at the Bertie Boat Club on Point Abino Road on Jan. 7 for the 3rd annual chili cook-off and Polar Bear Dip.

The event runs from 11 to 4 p.m. with an about 50 people making the plunge into Lake Erie at the boat launch at noon, says Smith.

"It's quite the spectacle to see. Some people are dressed in costumes or funny masks

and hats. It's really interesting to watch."

And with the unseasonable warm weather Fort Erie has had this winter, Smith jokes that swimmers might even need to wear sun screen.

For \$5, anyone can taste the chill from the cook-off and to take part in the Polar Bear Dip and the money will go toward local charities in Fort Erie.

"Although, you don't have to swim if you don't want to," says Smith, adding there will be lots of food for the kids, hot chocolate, a camp fire, live music and more.

"It's really a great day, and a great event put on the Crystal Beach BIA. It's a lot of fun."

Young player says being on team will be a great learning experience

Kris Dubé
The Times

The intensity of football is what keeps Kyle Kassay's head in the game.

The 14-year-old Crystal Beach resident, who stands 6

ft. 4" and weighs 310 lbs., was recently selected to represent Canada in an under 15 game to be played during the All American Bowl celebrations in San Antonio, TX, next week.

The towering defensive tackle has built his game with

local Triple AAA clubs like the Niagara Spears, a select team that plays all over Ontario in the summer months.

He also plays with the Niagara Generals, which is a similar calibre of football but is played in the Fall season.

"Holy cow, I was shocked," said Kassay, when he was asked what his initial reaction was when he found out he had been chosen as one of 29 Canadian players to make the roster.

Kassay says his strong points are his ability to strip the ball from his opponents, finishing tackles and finding a way to recover the pigskin when it is lost by the opposition.

But it's the nature of the game that keeps him interested.

"It's the intensity... the hard hitting... I just love it," said Kassay, who attends high school

in the Hamilton area but lives in Crystal Beach.

The young giant is looking forward to the one-game Canada and U.S. battle next weekend, but after watching footage on the Internet of some of the opposition... he knows his work will be cut out for him.

"I'm excited but scared at the same time," he said.

"Even if we lose, it will be a good experience...but I don't want to go in with that attitude."

Although Kassay is bigger than the average 14-year-old, it doesn't mean he is out of shape or that he is just on the roster to block at the line of scrimmage. Being selected for this team has helped his confidence and made him want to keep working hard at

“The coach says we're not there to be tourists. We're there to play ball.”

— Kyle Kassay

getting ready for the big game and perhaps an extensive career in the sport.

"It gives me a big boost, to work out and get better," said Kassay.

The team has been orchestrated by Paul Oraziotti, the head coach of the University of British Columbia's football team.

In the conversations Kyle and his father Dave have had with him, this isn't just going to be a fun weekend in Texas.

"The coach says we're not going there to be tourists. We're there to play ball."

Kassay will arrive at the Alamodome on Jan. 3 and have five days before the game to learn the playbook with his team.

The team will meet and practice from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day before the game.

Kassay grabbed the attention of the team's head coach after he posted a highlight reel of himself on YouTube.

Kyle's father Dave said he believes that a small collection of videos is what landed his son on the team... but is very proud and looks forward to his son's performance.

"This is all because of the Internet," he said.

The game can be watched online next Sunday at www.allamericangames.tv.

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Route: 1047 - Crescent Park - 53 papers (Fernside, Orchard, Parkdale, Evelyn)

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Births

The Fort Erie Times



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The Fort Erie Times

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Deadline January 10th, 2012

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Well, maybe that is true.
But we never wanted memories,
We only wanted you.

Memoriam Verse #176

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Deaths

LIGHT, Lucas Darryl - October 12, 2002 - December 27, 2011 - Cherished son of Stacey Light, stepson of Brian Walker and son of Edwin Overholt. Predeceased by his grandmother, Cheryl Light (November 2, 2011). Survived by siblings Zachary, Dakota and Gabriela Augustine, and Zachariah Walker. Much loved by his Grandfather Donald Light, Aunt Julie (David) Anthony, Uncle Tom (Heather) Light, Cousins Eryn and Olivia Anthony, Hilary and Shannon Light, Niece Isabella and Nephew Landon. Family will receive friends at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road North, Ridgeway, on Tuesday January 3rd from 10:00 to 11:00. A celebration of Lucas' life will follow in the chapel at 11:00 o'clock. If so desired donations to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, Maria's Lounge or The Volunteer Services would be appreciated by the family. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at

www.williamsfuneralhome.ca
"Never stop looking for rainbows in the rain."



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Obituaries, In Memoriam, Thanks, Births, Congratulations, More

Deaths

PLESCHKE, H. Kurt - After a brave battle with cancer, Kurt passed away on Monday December 26th, 2011 at the Douglas Memorial Hospital in his 60th year. Loving husband and best friend of Linda. Proud and caring father of David, Bob, Nik and Rebecca. Beloved stepfather of Chris (Sarah) Wilkie and Cherie (Gregg) Warman. Cherished Papa of Eden, Autumn and Isaac. Warmth, Franz, missed brother of Barbara (Paula) Franz, Anita (Doug) Gaudreau, Loraine Warden, Edward Warden, Udo Warden, Lisa (Barry) Leslie and Monika (Bruce) Fawcett and Brother-in-law of Judy Dixon, John (Cheryl) Hering. Also survived by Inge Warden, his large extended family and many wonderful friends. Predeceased by his son Daniel and parents Otto and Olga Pleschke. Kurt was a caring and giving man who served Region #3 of the Special Olympics since 1993. He was their Regional Treasurer, their Community Council Treasurer as well as the coach of The Power and The Glory, the powerlifting team and the St. Catharines Sprinters, the Athletics team. He was a board member of Headshof Retirement Home and a past board member of the St. Catharines Chamber of Commerce. As the Comptroller for General Motors, he worked in Colma, Texas and Austria before coming to the Niagara Region and working in St. Catharines. Kurt was a proud member of Alpha Phi. He will be sadly missed by the members of Redeemer Bible Church and the Riverside Community Church where he was a member. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Wednesday from 7-9 and Thursday from 2-4 & 7-9. Funeral Services was held in the Benner Funeral Chapel on Friday at 1 p.m. If so desired, donations to the Ontario Special Olympics Region #3 Powerlifting team, the Mark Precece Family Home in Hamilton or the Headshof Retirement Home would be appreciated by the family. Donations and condolences at

www.bennerfuneralservices.ca

Time takes away the edge of grief,
But memory turns back every leaf.

Memoriam Verse #30

To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

Deaths

ROGOZINSKI, Beverly Anne - On Friday December 30, 2011, Bev left her family here on earth to go dancing with her daughter Jenny, at the age of 81 years. Bev Rogozinski, cherished wife and best friend of 41 years to Ian Rogozinski, beloved mother of Melissa (Steve) Burdick, Amanda (Jeff) Wilson and the late Jennifer. Proud grandma of Kayla, Jessica, Brittney, David and Jacob. Dear sister of Valerie (Don) Costerton and sister-in-law of Diane (Bill) Smith and Rick Rogozinski. Bev will be fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews. Bev was passionate about her involvement with the Pazar Bridge Association for the Mentally Challenged and was also a Past-President. She enjoyed her work and will be remembered for her 25 years at Betty's Restaurant and in later years at Homer's, Ridgeway's and Joe's Valiumart. A sincere thank-you to our Palliative Care Nurse Elizabeth and Dr. Kim Scher for all of their care and support. A service to celebrate Bev's life will be held on Monday afternoon January 2, 2012 at 2:30 at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road North, Ridgeway. In memory of Bev, those who wish may make a donation to Community Living Fort Erie in lieu of flowers. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at

www.williamsfuneralhome.ca

ROSS, Rita - Rita Ross passed away at the Greater Niagara General Hospital December 28th, 2011 in her 88th year. Loving wife of the late Kenneth Ross. Cherished sister of Hazel McMillen, Benjamin Dublinskyne and Canon (Irene) Dublinskyne at Bishop's Bay. Rita was missed by many nieces, nephews, especially Phil McMillen, extended family, dear friends especially Donna and Bob Wernemut, Larry and Ann Layne, Carol Wernemut and the residents and staff of Crescent Park Lodge, Fort Erie. Predeceased by sister Beiford Dublinskyne and sister Frances Dublinskyne. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Visiting will take place at noon on January 2nd, until the time of service at 1 p.m. in the Benner Funeral Chapel, intended to follow in Greenwood Cemetery. A light lunch will follow at the funeral home. If so desired, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

Down a road that's calm and peaceful,
Guided by God's loving hand,
He has gone upon a journey
To a distant, brighter land.
And although our hearts are heavy
With sorrow we still bear,
It helps to bring us closer,
Knowing he is happy there.

Memoriam Verse #2

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Deaths



WILLIAMS, Harry - On Friday December 23, 2011 Harry passed quietly at Douglas Memorial Hospital in his 94th year. Harry leaves his wife Hazel (nee Carter), two sons, James (Branda) Williams of Stevensville and Todd (Kelly) Williams of Shelby Township, Michigan and four grandchildren Reed, Delaney, Julia and Jake. Harry served six years in World War II and was a proud member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 71 and Branch #230. Harry was employed with Immigration at the Fort Erie Peace Bridge for over thirty-five years. Friends called at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**, 722 Ridge Road North, Ridgeway on Tuesday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral service was held on Wednesday at 11 o'clock at the funeral home. Interment followed at Beth's Church Cemetery, Stevensville. Those who wish may make a donation to the Fort Erie Salvation Army in memory of Harry. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at www.williamsfuneralhome.ca.

In memoriam



Ryan Cecil Antone

January 1, 1987 - December 31, 2006
In loving memory of a dear grandson, son, uncle and nephew.
Still loving you and missing you with all our hearts and souls.
Happy Birthday, Baby-Boy.
Love Mom, Dad, Tiffany, Kadence, and our new addition, Kiara, Grandma, Kim, Nate, Maddox & Ethan.



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Heaven's gate swung gently open,
The Master called softly, "Come."
And you, dear one, took the Master's hand,
And your work on earth was done.
We'll never cease to miss you,
And shed many silent tears,
Because we cannot share with you
Our hopes, our joys, our fears.
But one day, in God's garden,
When the Master calls us to come!
You'll be at the gates with open arms
And say to us, "Welcome Home!"

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